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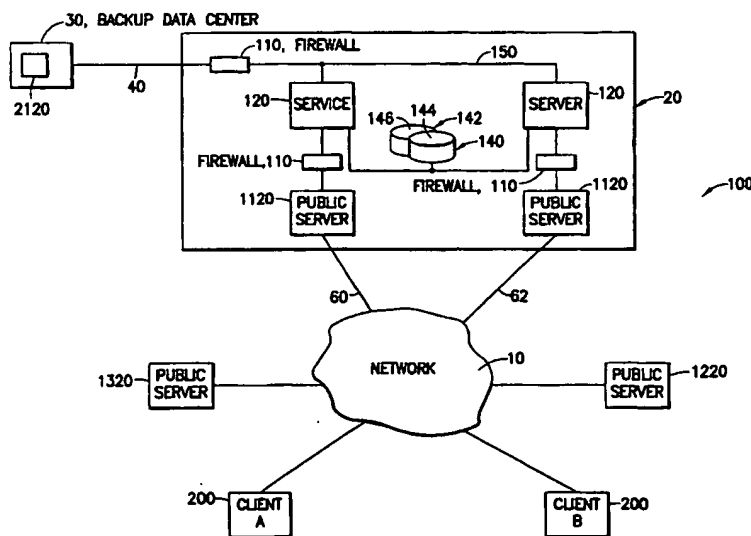
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: MULTI-PLAYER COMPUTER GAME SYSTEM AND METHOD



(57) Abstract: A multi-player computer game, system and development method that facilitate multi-player game play between and among various hardware platforms employing various operating systems and communication protocols. Special purpose software operable in connection with a processor of a client computing device provides a multi-player computer game. The special purpose software provides an interface between an application module, which provides the functionality for a specific multi-player computer game, and the operating system and hardware devices and protocols of the client computing device. A multi-player game system facilitates multi-player game play between and among a plurality of players regardless of the different hardware platforms (i.e.,

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# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

In tional Application No  
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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER  
IPC 7 G06F19/00

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)  
IPC 7 G06F

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ, IBM-TDB, INSPEC

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 97 43846 A (KOUTS MICHAEL ;MCKELLER DAVID (CA); PLUMB MARC (CA); SHIELDS DANIE) 20 November 1997 (1997-11-20)	1-5, 8-11, 14-21, 24-28,31
A	page 1, line 1 - line 2	6,7,12, 13,22, 23,29,30
	page 2, line 20 -page 4, line 3 page 5, line 6 -page 7, line 15 page 7, line 30 -page 8, line 5 page 8, line 10 -page 9, line 15	
A	US 5 964 660 A (JAMES STANLEY R ET AL) 12 October 1999 (1999-10-12) column 3, line 41 -column 6, line 35 --- -/--	1-31

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	<p>A.WILSON: "An Internet Game Server in Java"</p> <p>WEB TECHNIQUES, 'Online!</p> <p>March 1997 (1997-03), pages 1-6, XP002185738</p> <p>Retrieved from the Internet:</p> <p>&lt;URL:http://www.webtechniques.com&gt;</p> <p>'retrieved on 2001-12-14!</p> <p>page 1, line 17 -page 2, line 22</p> <p>page 2, line 39 -page 3, line 22</p> <p>-----</p>	1-31

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**INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**

Information on patent family members

International Application No

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Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
WO 9743846	A	20-11-1997	US 6050898 A	18-04-2000
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			WO 9743846 A1	20-11-1997
			EP 0958687 A1	24-11-1999
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